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St. Christopher's *e-Traveler*

Issue #58

AUGUST 2017

From the RECTOR



The Rev.
John F. Dwyer
Rector

A Happy August to One and All!

The month of August can seem like the end of things. Growing up, I remember loving August because summer was still continuing and school was a bit more than a month away. But a part of me resented the month, because there was only one more month left of summertime, one more month of a kind of freedom that did not exist during the school year.

I am writing this just before Ben and I go on a two-week vacation to Cape Cod, in Massachusetts. I have not had a two (2!) week vacation in over 15 years, so to say I'm a bit excited would be understating things. Nevertheless, I return the first full week of August, and for the staff here at St. Christopher's, August is the "crunch" month: the getting of all things necessary for the program year finalized time. So, August can feel like the end of things for us, balanced against the knowledge that we have an entire month to finish that work.

One of the things we have been discussing and considering is making a slight shift to how we "sit" in the nave of our worship space. We are thinking about creating a slight chevron pattern, with a focus on our common table, and providing us easier sight lines to see each other. At the same time we are exploring moving the "children's carpet" from the very back of the nave to the front, situated so as to accentuate sight lines for the children and our common table. The children's area would be surrounded on three sides by chairs, allowing the parents to be in near proximity to the children, and yet slightly removed from them. Please look at the (not drawn to scale) sketch below. If we move forward with this idea, we are targeting Start-Up Sunday, September 10th, as the "reveal" date. Your feedback would be appreciated.



Meet
Christ
Be Christ

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

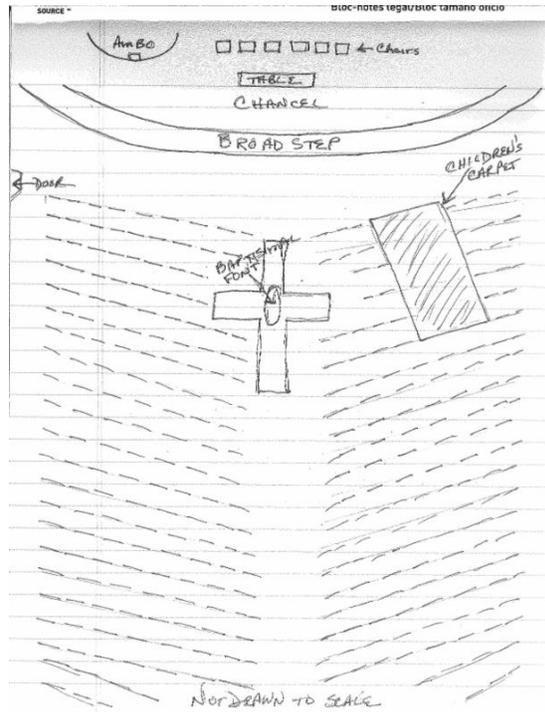
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Cindy Lee,
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Mark Brilowski
Darlene Cross
Jan Fillmore
Elizabeth Grayden
Karen Hartman
Chris Huntley
Becky Lucas
Mike Sirany
Barbara Swanson

STAFF:

Ruth Thillen,
Parish Administrator
Chad O'Leary
Youth Director
Marion Hunner,
Children's Ministries
Karla S. Cole,
Director of Music
Rev. Mary Rowe,
Assisting Priest
Rev. Janet MacNally,
Deacon



Rev. John F. Dwyer,
Rector

**Our
SUMMER
Schedule**
(Through
September 10th)

Sunday:

9:30 AM
Holy Eucharist
10:30 AM
Fellowship

Wednesday:

12:15 PM
Holy Eucharist
-Chapel

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
9 AM - 4 PM

My prayers and blessings to all for a peaceful and renewing August,

The Deacon Discusses



The Rev.
Janet MacNally,
Deacon

The room where it happened*

**Thanks to Lin-Manuel Miranda*

Lordy! Is it hot in Alabama! That is the first initial and physical impression that I have of my journey with our Youth Group on their Civil Rights Pilgrimage this past month. (I should at this point report that is also hot in Tennessee, Louisiana and Georgia!) Yet beyond the physical impressions was the most sobering realization that we were, in many ways, in the room or on the bridge or at the church or on the plantation where it happened. For all of us, chaperones and youth together, the struggle of our Black sisters and brothers to obtain the most basic of civil rights came off the pages of the history text and became a real and painful struggle. Whether it was the fight to travel across state lines on a Greyhound Bus without fear of being beaten, jailed, or losing your life that became very real to us in Montgomery, or the walking across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma on a beautiful and peaceful sunny afternoon focusing on what it must have been like to face a battalion of police

and sheriff's deputies, all armed with batons and teargas, to the lower level of the 16th Avenue Baptist Church in Birmingham where the side wall was blown out and four girls lost their lives, we all left the "room" where it happened just a little more transformed with each encounter.

We covered a good deal of ground, mileage wise, and even more as we crisscrossed over state lines and the decades that led up to the struggle of the 1960's.

We visited the Whitney Plantation in Louisiana, where the story is told from the point of the slaves that worked and provided for the plantation owners. We visited a house that was a stop on the Underground Railroad, and learned of the code used to guide the way in words of spirituals and the placement of specific quilt designs on clothes lines and fences.

We visited the small church in Montgomery where Martin Luther King, Jr. was first called to be the pastor, we stood where he gave his final speech (I have been to the mountain top), and the balcony where his life was taken.

We walked through the park where the Birmingham Police turned dogs and firehoses on youth the same age as our group, as they too stood for the right as citizens to cast a vote.

It was hard to imagine that there was a fight over such things and yet even harder to realize that in some ways the struggle is ongoing.

And while all of those experiences (and believe me, I have not listed them all by any means) were transformative and meaningful, the memories that I will carry with me will also include the chance encounters and conversations that we either as a group or individuals had with museum guides and docents or bus tour guides or wait staff in restaurants. "What brings y'all to these parts?" was the opening. "We are here with our church youth group on a Civil Rights pilgrimage," we replied. And then a conversation began with how impressed folks were that a group of white middle class kids came all this way to learn about their struggle and how important it was to remember the struggle, to remember those whose lives were lost, and to remember how we still need to "strive for justice and peace and respect the dignity of every human being." Good strong conversations that gave as much to us as we gave to our hosts.

And this is where all of you come into the picture. There is much to share, and seeds that have been planted and that need to be tended to, in order to bear fruit. While there will be a more formal presentation on this transformative journey, in the meantime, if you happen upon one of our pilgrim youth at coffee hour or before the service, or just around, ask them to tell you about their journey, what changed for them, what will they always remember, whose story is the one they most want to retell? And once you have asked one pilgrim find another and ask the questions again. I promise you no two answers will be the same; and that is as it should be.

Amen, Deacon Janet



**Footprints
AUGUST 2017**



**News from Children's
Ministries**



Marion Hunner

Children's Ministries Director

Collection Announcement - if you have toilet paper/paper towel rolls or plastic drink bottles (any size) we could use them for a project on **Friday, August 11th. Please leave them in the basket outside my office.



I want to offer my heartfelt thanks to everyone who made VBS such a wonderful success. It takes many, many volunteers - both during the week and behind the scenes - to provide this special week of programming. VBS week is my favorite week of the year, and I am

always energized by the excitement of the children and the true sense of the Holy Spirit working among us. If you would like to see pictures from each day, they are on posters in the Upper and Lower Narthex and the Children's Ministries bulletin board. You can also find pictures on St. Christopher's Facebook page - you do not need to be a Facebook user to access our page:

www.facebook.com/St.ChristophersRoseville

School Supply Collection



Watch for the yellow bus in the Lower Narthex from July 30 - Aug 13, where we are collecting school supplies for Keystone Community Services. They need all of the typical school supplies: backpacks, colored pencils, pens (red, black, blue ink), compasses & protractors, notebooks (wide &

college ruled), pencil bags/cases, glue, scissors, markers (narrow & wide), crayons (24). . . . etc. Anything you find in the back to school section of the store would be great! Please place supplies in the bus no later than Sunday, August 13th. If you would prefer a monetary donation, please put it in Marion's mailbox and label it "school supplies." We will use it to purchase items for the drive.

Family Fun Drive-In Movie Friday, August 11th 6:00-8:15 pm



Families of all ages, shapes and sizes are invited to gather in the Parish Hall, make cars for our drive-in movie, and then watch the Pixar movie Cars (the original). Feel free bring lawn chairs, blankets, etc. Snacks provided

Pulse of the Parish

Good Morning. My name is Mark Brilowski and I am on your Vestry. Today I am offering the Pulse of the Parish. The purpose of this brief update is to keep you informed of the actions taken by the Vestry at their meeting on Monday, July 17th.

- The Vestry had a long discussion about Chapter 5 of the book, "The Agile Church: Spirit-led Innovation in an Uncertain Age," written by The Rev. Dwight Zscheile. ("Shy-lee")
- The monthly financial reports were reviewed. Our income from offerings and building use are slightly behind our budget projections because of summer travels of many parishioners. Expenses were below those budgeted. We remain in the black for the year, and overall, our cash flow is in good shape.
- The Vestry heard reports from individual vestry members who have taken on assignments stemming from Goals established by the Vestry. Reports concerning the work to secure bids for our sewer line repair were discussed in detail, as well as the need to increase volunteers, and church growth and evangelism.
- The Vestry discussed, and is grateful for, our participation in the Roseville Parade at the end of June.
- The Vestry discussed the August meeting, which will take place at our Sr Warden's home, with families of vestry members invited.
- The Vestry approved a Mission Opportunity Grant request for \$500 for Meals on Wheels.
- The Vestry heard a report from the Finance Committee on their 2017 mid-year Budget review.
- The Vestry made plans for our Start-Up Sunday on September 10th.
- The Vestry would like to recognize the following people in our "Shout-outs" for the work they have recently done for our parish:
 - Thanks to all who worked on preparation and participated in the Roseville Parade.
 - A special thanks to Chad O'Leary, our Director of Youth Ministries, for organizing and managing the Youth Group's successful Civil Rights Pilgrimage.
 - And a second special thanks to Marion Hunner, our Children's Ministries Director, for planning, organizing, and managing this past week's fantastic Vacation Bible School experience.

Please be aware that the minutes of the June meeting will not be available to read online or in the library until after they have been approved at the Vestry's June meeting. I will be at coffee hour after the service. Please feel free to ask any Vestry member or me any questions you have about this meeting. Thank you for your attention.

AUGUST Calendar Highlights

4 6 PM Corn Feed - A Silent Auction Event - Parish Hall

6 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist

8 *Meals on Wheels - Offsite*

9 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist - Chapel

4:15 PM Staff Meeting - Office

11 5 PM Family Movie Night! - Parish Hall

13 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist

5:30 PM First Nations' Kitchen - *Offsite*

14 5:30 PM Finance Committee - Parish Hall

16 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist - Chapel

18 6 PM *Chinese Day Care Graduation-Parish Hall*

20 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist

21 6:45 PM Vestry

23 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist - Chapel

4:15 PM Staff Meeting - Office

24 STATE FAIR PARKING BEGINS!

Every Day 7 AM - 10 PM through September 4

27 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist

28 e-Traveler Deadline!

29 Meals on Wheels - Offsite

30 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist - Chapel

31 5:30 PM Community Dinner - Parish Hall

Please note:

Outside group use of the building has not been listed here. Please note that we now have music lessons Monday through Saturday. Please check the calendar in the office before scheduling a meeting or event. Our weekly building-use calendar is **quite busy!**

Last Words

I hope you have enjoyed the August **e-Traveler**.

As I put the **e-Traveler** together, Fr. John and Lincoln have gone away on vacation, so no new picture this month. So, here is last month's picture, again, along with one from 4 years ago! My, how puppies change!



Do, please, remember that it is vacation season - if you need to stop in the office, please call ahead to be sure the ones you want to see are here!

Sincerely,
Ruth Thillen, Parish Administrator

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